## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, APRIL 20, 1942

The Board of Public Works met on April 20, 1942, in the office of the Governor, State House, Annapolis, Maryland.

There were present:

Herbert R. O'Conor, Governor J.Millard Tawes, Comptroller Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer.

(Mr. Walter N. Kirkman, Director of the Department of Budget and Procurement, was unable to be present at the meeting because of illness.)

The Minutes of the meetings of March 23, 1942, copies of which were sent to each member of the Board, were approved.

#### BUDGET:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Dr. Horace E. Flack, Secretary of The Legislative Council, submitting to the Board of Public Works a copy of resolution which was adopted by The Legislative Council of Maryland at its last meeting.

The resolution is as follows:

"RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF MARYLAND, That the Board of Public Works is hereby requested to provide funds, if possible, for the operation of the several State hospitals, or to authorize the State hospitals to incur deficits or overdrafts; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Legislative Council will support whatever action the Board of Public Works finds it necessary to take to accomplish this purpose."

The Board was appreciative of the willingness of the Legislative Council to co-operate in the matter of any difficulties which the State would encounter during the current fiscal year in the event the appropriations to some of the State Agencies are found to be inadequate, and willgive further consideration to the resolution if and when it is found necessary.

## COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY: Refunds

After due consideration the Board authorized the Comptroller to make the following refunds:

Alcoholic Beverages Tax Division P. Ballantine & Sons Robt. L. & Dora E. Hartle	\$49.27 31.15	\$627.69 2.342.73 \$2,970.42
Chas. D. Kaier Co.	341.54	
Cerhard Lang Brewery	51.09	·
Liebmann Breweries, Inc.	20.25	
Louis F. Neuweiller's Sons	134.39.	
Post Exchange, Aberdeen Proving Grd.	282.49-	
Post Exchange, Edgewood Arsenal	139.63	
Officers' Club & Mess, Gunpowder		
Canteen, Student Officers' Canteen,		
Edgewood Arsenal, Md.	11.67	
	620.43	
	563.80 -	
ù u ù ñ ñ	724.71	
Corporation Taxes		255.73
The Howard P. Foley Co., Inc.	18.51	
Westinghouse Electric Co.	11.51∱	
High Rock Ginger Ale Co.	10.95	
Sun Oil Co.	42.96/	
Andelot, Inc.	138.49	
The Hauswald Baker Co.	8.64	
Montbello Distillers, Inc.	6.42	
Urban Laundry Co.	18.25}	
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Title Tax		\$100.62·
Capt. Paul E. Ketterer	\$13.80	
Mack-International Motor Truck Corp.	23.25.	
Margaret Amelia Rawleigh	8.30.	
Edw. Joseph Gardner, Jr.	20.60	
Frank Zimmerman	2.22.	
Orville P. Jester	2.81^	
City Oldsmobile, Inc.	19.90.	
Karl Brandt	4.00'	
Francis Evarts Lamb	5 <b>.</b> 74	
Licenses: Real Estate -		25.00
Leonard Snider	25.00 ·	

The Comptroller submitted claim for refund submitted by the Treasurer of Anne Arundel County in the amount of \$649.62 covering taxes refunded by the Anne Arundel County Commissioners of duplicate payments of State taxes during the years 1939-1940-1941, with a detailed list of taxpayers attached to the claim.

Upon recommendation of the Comptroller that this refund be made, the Board approved the claim of the County Commissioners. \$649.62

The Comptroller brought to the attention of the Board letter received from the Department of State Forests and Parks, asking for a refund of \$4.59 paid to the County Commissioners of Garrett County, covering property purchased from that Commission December 16, 1938 at a tax sale. It was set forth that the County Commissioners were unable to locate the property after the sale and had refunded the county tax which had been paid.

Upon recommendation of the Comptroller, the Board approved the payment of this refund, the reimbursement to the Department of State Forests and Parks to go to their Forest Reserve Fund.

\* \$ 4.59°

The Comptroller submitted for consideration by the Board, two claims for refunds which were recommended by the State Tax Commission, with interest at 6% per annum from date of payment made in error to the State.

1-	Filing Fee paid in error by D. A. Stuart Oil Company, March 14, 1942 Interest at 6%	\$25.00 .13 \$25.13
2-	1941 Gross Receipts Tax paid by Fidelity Trust Company, July 29, 1941. Interest at 6%	\$131.64 5.92 \$137.56

The Board authorized the Comptroller make refunds, with interest, as set forth above, the refunds having been approved by the State Tax Commission under date of April 15, 1942.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board some correspondence passing between the office of the Comptroller and the Maryland State Board of Motion Picture Censors, wherein it was recommended to the Comptroller that \$16.00 be refunded to Mr. Edgar E. Lloyd, ll West 42nd Street, New York City, in connection with the censorship of his film entitled "Merry Wives".

Mr. McCusker explained that Mr. Lloyd had paid a censorship fee of

\$18.00 at the time of submitting the film for review. The film was not approved because of certain objectionable features. After certain eliminations were made the film was again submitted and a further fee of \$16.00 paid. The Board of Motion Picture Censors again refused to approve the film. Mr. McCusker suggested that it was not in order to make a refund of either fee, since it was to be regarded that the Board had earned the fee in the work done by it in reviewing the film and that it was no fault of the Board that Mr. Lloyd found himself out of pocket for fees in connection with his effort to secure approval of the film.

After due consideration, it was decided that there should be no refund of either fee paid by Mr. Lloyd in this case.

#### CROWNSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board copy of a communication addressed to Mr. Kirkman, reviewing the budget of the Crownsville State Hospital for the current fiscal year and calling attention to the apparent shortage which will exist at the end of this year. As Mr. Kirkman was not at the meeting the Board was unable to fully discuss this letter.

# DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION: House of Correction

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board correspondence which was addressed to the Board of Public Works, recently, by Mr. Willis R. Jones, Chairman and Director of the Department of Correction, relative to the leasing of additional land for the raising of vegetables so that the Maryland House of Correction would be able to can these vegetables and thereby not only provide income to the institution but make it possible to keep the inmates of the institution employed, and at the same time help the Defense situation since it would be possible to sell these products to the Army and Navy Departments.

After carefully considering what Mr. Jones had to say, it was decided to authorize him to proceed with the leasing of the additional land in the vicinity of the Maryland House of Correction, for the purposes outlined.

# DEPARTMENT OF STATE FORESTS AND PARKS:

The Secretary advised that a letter had been received from Mr. Karl E. Pfeiffer, Assistant State Forester, reporting that the agreement which was approved by the Board on January 16, 1942, covering the concession at the Gambrill State Park, had been executed between the Department of State Forests and Parks and Mrs. Margaret W. Kern. A copy of that agreement was submitted to the Board of Public Works for its file.

# DEPARTMENT OF TIDEWATER FISHERIES: "Patchetts Pond"

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from the Department of Tidewater Fisheries relative to a proposed lease between that Department and L. Edward Butler and Beatrice M. Butler covering the use of land and pond in Caroline County, known as the "Patchetts Pond", for the breeding and rearing of fish, the lease being for a term of one year beginning April 1, 1942, with a right of renewal each year over a period of five years, at an annual rental of \$50.00.

The Board approved the request of the Department of Tidewater Fisheries and authorized the execution of this lease.

#### LEASES:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Mr. Kirkman advising that he had completed arrangements for the use of Room 706 in the Union Trust Building, Baltimore, by the Baltimore City Rationing Board, the lease to continue until June 15, 1942, when consideration will be given to a permanent location for the Board. The rent is to be \$45.00 per month.

The Board approved the agreement made by Mr. Kirkman.

The Board confirmed the approval given verbally by the individual members of the Board, recently, to the lease between The Four Star Company and the Maryland State Board of Motion Picture Censors, for the first floor of 848 N. Howard Street, Baltimore, Maryland, excepting the hallway to be used in common with others, and the stairways leading up and down from the hallway, for a term of 3 years 5 months from May 1, 1942, at an annual rental of \$3,800.00.

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The Board approved execution of a lease between Philip Wienecke and Sons, Inc. and the Maryland Unemployment Compensation Board for offices at 3411-3413 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore, comprising approximately 3,600 square feet, for a term of 1 year, from March 16, 1942, at an annual rental of \$3,750.00.

#### THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:

See: Budget, these Minutes, relative to "overdrafts".

#### MILITARY DEPARTMENT:

The Secretary reported that he had gone over the budget of the Military Department for the current fiscal year with Col. E. Leslie Medford, and that it was agreed that the budget could be amended to make \$8,400.00 available for the purposes of the State Guard and Maryland Council of Defense. An amendment to cover this was submitted and was approved by the Governor at the meeting.

## MARYLAND TRAINING SCHOOL FOR BOYS:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication addressed to Mr. Kirkman, Director of the Department of Budget and Procurement, by Col. James A. Pratt, Superintendent of Maryland Training School for Boys, in which there was a tabulation of the bids received by that school for the construction of a new cow stable to replace one burned on November 28, 1941. Plans and specifications for the new stable were prepared by Mr. Henry Powell Hopkins, architect.

Col. Pratt's letter indicated that there were seven bids received, the highest being \$28,950.00 and the lowest \$19,762.00, as submitted by Colwill and Tovell. Col. Pratt requested authority to award a contract to Colwill and Tovell for the workat their bid of \$19,762.00.

The Board approved the execution of a contract, as requested.

Col. Pratt stated in his letter that the adjustment by the fire insurance companies would be more than sufficient to take care of the amount to be paid to the contractor for the construction of the new stable, the settlement for the fire damages having been received in the amount of \$24,295.55.

# MARYLAND TRAINING SCHOOL FOR COLORED GIRLS:

The Secretary reported that he did not have any further information in connection with the matter of the sewerage work to be done at the Maryland Training School for Colored Girls, Mr. Kirkman having advised him that he had not been able to secure information as to the bids, etc. and that he is not yet ready to make any recommendation as to the awarding of a contract for the work.

#### ROSEWOOD STATE TRAINING SCHOOL:

The Board approved a request submitted by Dr. George A. Johns, Superintendent of Rosewood State Training School, for authority to expend an additional \$100.00 to cover the installation of a new steam siren in place of the whistle originally provided for in the contract for the power house alterations and additions, the work to be done by Charles T. King, Inc., the contractor for this work.

## SAINT JOHN'S COLLEGE:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Judge Carroll T. Bond, Chairman of the Hall of Records Commission, relative to the proposed wall to be erected around the property of St. John's College, Annapolis. In his letter Judge Bond suggested that the plans for the wall be shown to Mr. Laurence Hall Fowler, architect for the Hallof Records, so that the State might have the benefit of Mr. Fowler's opinion regarding the proposed work.

As it was stated that the work on the wall will be deferred indefinitely, it was felt that it would not be necessary, at this time, to give the matter consideration.

### STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Mr. Thomas G. Pullen, State Superintendent of Schools, advising that he had gone over the public school budget with a view to determining whether it would be possible to make any reversions from that budget at the end of the current fiscal year. In his letter Dr. Pullen stated that it appears that the public school budget will be able to return to the State Treasury approximately \$75,000, while maintaining their regular program and distributing as usual one hundred per cent of the cost of high school transportation in the Equalization Fund counties. He further stated that he expected to be in a fairly good situation next year, but that it must be remembered that assessments in six Equalization Fund counties will be reduced because of the elimination of household furniture from the taxable basis, and that the war may seriously affect schools and public finances.

The Board expressed gratification at the prospect of saving \$75,000 in the public school budget in the current fiscal year.

## STATE EMPLOYMENT COMMISSIONER:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board two communications addressed to it by Col. Harry C. Jones, State Employment Commissioner, under dates of March 26th, 1942 and April 9th, 1942, requesting that the Board advise him as to a matter of policy for the approval of employment of wives of superintendents and others in official authority at State institutions, to positions at those institutions.

Col. Jones specifically called attention to the situation existing at Rose-wood State Training School where Mrs. Viola Barrett Johns, wife of Dr. George A. Johns, Superintendent, is recommended for appointment as a Laboratory Technician, at the institution, pending examination.

The Board considered this question very carefully and had before it the fact that there are severalinstances where wives of Doctors and Superintendents are employees. It was the feeling of the Board that this situation might be necessary at the present time because of the War Emergency but that as a general rule it would not seem to operate in the best interests of the administration of State affairs. It was brought to the attention of the Board that Mrs. Johns, who was to be employed as a Laboratory Technician, is fully qualified for the work, being a registered physician, and has had experience in institutional work before Dr. Johns was named Superintendent of Rosewood State Training School. It was further mentioned that Mrs. George C. Medairy, wife of Dr. Medairy of the Staff at Rosewood State Training School, who is employed a Matron at the institution, is a graduate, Registered Nurse, and that the work of Matron is being done better and is of a higher type than has been done in the past by persons holding the position of Matron without the professional training possessed by Mrs. Medairy.

It was felt that there are arguments for and against the employment of the wives or relatives in State institutions, but that because of the difficulty in getting employees at this time through the ordinary channels the Board would not take the position of prohibiting the employment of such persons, because of the possibility that it might be difficult for the institutions to function to the best advantage by having employed persons

who would be inferior to those who are available if it is to be permitted to employ the wives and/or relatives in charge of institutions; and, that care should be taken in approving the employment of such persons to be sure that the institutions do not find find themselves with persons on their payrolls not rendering proper service because of the inability of those in authority to obtain full co-operation and efficiency because of the relationship situation.

## STATE PROPERTY:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from the Maryland State Library in which authority was requested to sell their accumulation of old and worthless books now stored in the basement, as scrap.

The request was approved with the understanding the funds received from the sale of books would be turned into the State Treasury, with an allowance to the Library for getting the books assorted and ready for disposal.

#### STATE RECORDS:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Mr. Wm. L. Henderson, Chairman of the State Tax Commission, requesting authority to dispose of annual reports filed by corporations for tax and other purposes during the period 1914 to 1930, each year inclusive, the disposition of these papers making it possible for the Commission to have available for current use the space which these reports are requiring at this time as well as the filing cabinets in which they are stored. The request for the disposition of these old records was made in accordance with the Acts of 1941, Chapter 825.

Mr. Henderson suggested that there is very little to be gained by preserving reports for more than twelve years and requested authority to destroy such reports annually when they are twelve years old. He further stated that the reports are not to be confused with the charter records which will be kept permanently, but are annual reports giving the names and addresses of officers and in some cases stockholders, as well as the property, franchises or shares upon which annual taxes are assessed.

The Board was agreeable to Mr. Henderson's request and authorized him to dispose of such records as it is not desired to continue to store.

# STOCK CERTIFICATES:

The Secretary reported that the sale of 33 shares of stockof the Western Maryland Trust Company and 1 3/6ths shares of stock of the White Hall Bank had been completed in accordance with previous authority given by the Board. The sum of \$247.50 was received for the stock of Western Maryland Trust Company; and, the sum of \$9.00 for the stock of the White Hall Bank.

#### SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:

The Secretary reported that he had completed arrangements with Senator Louis N. Phipps, for the continued use of that part of the lot adjoining the State Power House for the storage of coal, and that he had agreed to reimburse Senator Phipps for the use of this space at the rate of \$25.00 per month, effective March 1, 1942.

The Board approved this arrangement with Senator Phipps.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Joseph Cemeluseer
Secretary